

Message Text

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11

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:LBLAINGEN

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

RPE:WSALISBURY (SUBS.)

NE:KSHIRLEY (SUBS.)

EUR:AAHARTMAN

S/S-O:DLMACK

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 190362

EXDIS FOR CHARGE FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, GR, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH SEISMIC VESSEL

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING ORAL MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL, IN NETHERLANDS' EC PRESIDENCY CAPACITY.

2. BEGIN ORAL MESSAGE. I WANT YOU TO KNOW HOW MUCH I LOOK FORWARD TO THE OPPORTUNITY THAT MY UPCOMING VISIT WILL GIVE ME FOR AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH YOU ON A WIDE VARIETY OF SUBJECTS. THERE IS ONE MATTER, HOWEVER, THAT I WANT TO RAISE WITH YOU NOW, IN YOUR CURRENT CAPACITY WITH THE EC-9. THAT IS THE SITUATION IN THE AEGEAN, WHERE
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I KNOW YOU SHARE OUR CONCERN THAT GREEK/TURKISH DIFFERENCES

OVER THE SAILING OF THE RESEARCH VESSEL SISMIK COULD CAUSE
A CONFRONTATION WITH SERIOUSLY ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES FOR ALL
OF US.

3. WE HAVE KEPT IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE LEADERSHIP OF
BOTH GREECE AND TURKEY ON THIS MATTER, URGING THEM TO
EXERCISE THE UTMOST RESTRAINT AND TO PERSEVERE IN BILATERAL
CONTACTS TO FIND A WAY TO DEFUSE THE ISSUE. GIVEN THE
LEGAL AMBIGUITIES THAT SURROUND ISSUES AFFECTING THE
CONTINENTAL SHELF AND IN THAT AREA IN PARTICULAR, WE HAVE
AVOIDED TAKING A LEGAL POSITION BUT HAVE STRESSED OUR

VIEW THAT IT IS EXACTLY BECAUSE OF THESE AMBIGUITIES THAT
RESTRAINT IS SO ESSENTIAL.

4. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO THE EASING OF
TENSIONS THERE THAT WE ALL SEEK, IF YOU IN YOUR CAPACITY
WITH THE NINE COULD CONVEY YOUR OWN VIEWS ON THIS MATTER
TO THE TWO GOVERNMENTS, HOPEFULLY UNDERSCORING THE
IMPORTANCE THAT YOU AND THE OTHER EC MEMBERS ATTACH TO
CONTINUING GREEK-TURKISH EFFORTS TO AGREE ON A FRAMEWORK
WITHIN WHICH THE SISMIK CAN BE HANDLED AND A PROCESS
AGREED UPON FOR RESOLVING THE UNDERLYING PROBLEMS INVOLVED.

5. I WILL WELCOME A FURTHER OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THIS
PROBLEM WHEN WE MEET IN THE HAGUE. KISSINGER

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NNN

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